

Sen. McCarthy Will Seek a Divorce

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

Sen. Eugene McCarthy, the Minnesota maverick, has decided to make a complete break not only with the Senate but with his wife, Abigail. They have been married for 24 years.

Just a few hours after his public announcement on Thursday that he would not run for re-election, McCarthy made a private announcement. He informed his wife that he would not be coming home again and that the lawyers had already started to draw up the divorce papers.

He suggested that she prepare a statement for the press.

"You make the statement," replied Abigail coolly "You have made all the others."

Both decisions came as a surprise to his family, who had not expected him to give up his Senate seat without a fight. He went into grim huddles earlier this week with Minnesota Democratic leaders, who apparently convinced him that he would be overwhelmed by Hubert Humphrey in next year's primary.

Wearily, the whimsical, unpredictable McCarthy, who seemed to prefer poetry to politics even while he was running for President, resigned himself to poetry. Friends suggested that he would begin a new life as a writer.

It has been no secret around

Washington that the McCarthy marriage was on the rocks. The dreamily handsome Senator had wowed the women during the 1968 presidential campaign, and some of his ardent campaign workers frankly fell in love with him.

At the height of the campaign, Abigail poured her heart out to friends, and whispers of a divorce spread around Washington. Because of their Catholic faith and attractive family, however, few really believed the rumors. The McCarthys have three daughters—Ellen Anne, Mary Abigail, and Margaret Alice—and one son, Michael.

Now the rumors will apparently become reality.

Nixon and Asia

President Nixon is now on the first lap of his visits to the islands and little countries which John Foster Dulles joined as a barrier to isolate Communist China.

The policy of using small nations to hedge in the most populous country in the world has not worked well, and President Nixon has the opportunity now to change it. Whether he will do so or not is the big question in the minds of Asian diplomats. They realize that as Vice President in the Eisenhower Administration Nixon was very much a part of the Dulles policy. Nevertheless, as President

he has shown some signs of considering this strategy outmoded.

Dulles relied on small countries such as South Korea, Formosa, the Philippines, South Vietnam, Thailand, Pakistan, Australia and New Zealand. They have proved themselves weak and unreliable allies, some of them requiring billions of American dollars to bolster their defenses. One of them, South Vietnam, has dragged the United States into the most unpopular and debilitating war in American history.

In contrast, Dulles could have used the major powers of Asia as our allies—Japan, the most powerful industrial nation outside the United States; India, the second most populous nation in the world; and Indonesia, the third largest democracy in the world.

He did not, partly because they were too independent and not easily malleable to American dictation, partly because of a factor peculiar to American politics—the China Lobby.

This complex of old American "China hands," American politicians greedy for campaign contributions, and the Kung-Soong dynasty dominated American policy in the Far East through the 1950s. The chief goal of the China Lobby was to set up Formosa as a bastion against the

Chinese continent; and the theory of an island-small nation defense chain was concocted as justification.

Actually the island chain had no military strength and the Seventh Fleet was kept on constant patrol as protection. On the one occasion when Eisenhower "unleashed" Chiang Kai-shek by removing the Seventh Fleet, the fleet had to be rushed back to protect Chiang and Formosa.

Early in his political career, Richard Nixon became part of this complex. Though most of the China Lobby's campaign funds given to the Republican and Democratic campaign chests were handled by Sen. Styles Bridges, Republican of New Hampshire, and Sen. Pat McCarran, Democrat of Nevada, some China Lobby money went direct to Nixon.

When Nixon was running for the Senate against Helen Gahagan Douglas in California in 1950, Leo Casey, the GOP public relations man who was sent to help him, stated that he had seen Major Joe Kung, nephew of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, hand Nixon a wad of cash in the lobby of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. Major Kung remained in Southern California during much of Nixon's campaign as a friend, adviser and contributor.